

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

YOUTH & FAMILY RESTORATION PROGRAM



PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

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Chief Probation Officer

YOUTH & FAMILY RESTORATION PROGRAM

You have been ordered by the Juvenile Delinquency Court to participate in the Youth & Family Restoration Program. The program is a delinquency intervention program, which includes an in-custody phase in the juvenile hall and a period of aftercare. Treatment services are individualized and may include substance abuse treatment, family counseling and mental health services. The Youth & Family Restoration Program will include intensive case management, with small caseloads, to allow close supervision and enable you to develop positive relationships with adults. The program will use positive reinforcement for good behavior and appropriate sanctions for program rule violations. This program was designed to help young people, like you, to change their lives.

The program team consists of a supervising probation officer, two probation officers, a juvenile services officer, a drug and alcohol therapist and a family care network therapist. The Youth & Family Restoration Program treatment team is here to help you make positive choices and reduce your delinquent behavior. The team is dedicated to your progress through each phase of the program and is focused on your success.

I. THE YOUTH & FAMILY RESTORATION PROGRAM RULES AND GUIDELINES

The Youth & Family Restoration Program Rules and Guidelines outline your responsibilities, rules of the program, incentives for compliance and sanctions for noncompliance. These rules and guidelines will be reviewed with you and signed at orientation to ensure that you understand the requirements, sanctions, and incentives of the program. A copy of these rules and guidelines will be provided to you and your family.

The family will also be asked to sign a Release of Information form allowing the program team to exchange information with various people and agencies. The information will be used to monitor the minor's progress, to coordinate treatment services and to make referrals to appropriate services. This Release of Information form will last for one year following graduation, or termination, so that the program supervisor will be able to gather statistically appropriate data. A copy of this waiver will be provided.

II. YOUTH & FAMILY RESTORATION PROGRAM REVIEW BOARD

You will be required to appear before the Youth & Family Restoration Review Board once per month to review your progress in the program. Before each Review Board appearance, the Probation Officer assigned to you will review your progress with the treatment team and prepare a written report and recommendation to the Review Board. If you are doing well, the Review Board will encourage you to continue and may order incentives based on the recommendations of the program treatment team. If you are not doing well, the Review Board will discuss this with you and may order sanctions based on the recommendations of the program treatment team.

III. INCENTIVES

When a minor is doing a great job in the program, the Deputy Probation Officer or the Review Board may reward the minor by ordering incentives such as, but not limited to, the following:

- Praise from the treatment team or review board
- Increased curfew

- Reduction of days in the phase
- Advanced phase
- Early graduation from the program
- Probation case closure

IV. SANCTIONS

When a participant is not following his/her program contract, the Deputy Probation Officer or the Review Board may order sanctions such as, but not limited to, the following:

- Reprimand from the Deputy Probation Officer or the Review Board
- Reduced curfew
- Community Work Service
- Increased drug testing
- Increased treatment contacts
- Increased contacts with the Deputy Probation Officer
- Reduction of phase or extension of time in current phase
- Placement on electronic monitoring
- Confinement time in Juvenile Hall
- Termination from the program

V. TERMINATION FROM THE YOUTH & FAMILY RESTORATION PROGRAM

The minor can be terminated from participation in the Youth & Family Restoration Program for any of the following:

- Behavior problems in juvenile hall
- New arrest
- Failure to attend and/or participate in treatment
- Failure to attend school
- Any violation of probation
- Failure to follow the directives of parents/guardian, probation officer or review board
- If the determination is made that the minor is no longer benefiting from the program

Repeated program contract violations, probation violations, and/or new arrests could result in your termination from the program. Disruption of treatment groups, violence or threats of violence directed at treatment staff or other minors in the program will not be tolerated. The Youth & Family Restoration Program treatment team will make recommendations regarding termination from the program after a review.

VI. YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE

The Juvenile Delinquency Court has given you the opportunity to participate in the Youth & Family Restoration Program. This program was designed to help young people, like you, to change their lives. You will not be alone in this program. We want to help you learn to care for yourself and others. We understand the journey you are about to begin on is not easy. The Youth & Family Restoration Program treatment team is committed to helping you and your family, work your way through the program steps.